

## Connecticut's Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services



# Ages Birth-5

### Early Intervention

- ☐ Contact the CT Birth to Three System 1-800-505-7000 [www.birh23.org](http://www.birh23.org)
- ☐ Contact your local Family Support Network
- ☐ Explore child care and preschool options
- ☐ Prepare to transition from CT Birth to Three System to the local school system

### Health and Medical Care, and Related Therapeutic Interventions

- ☐ Understand the current diagnostic criteria for Autism Spectrum Disorder
- ☐ Review *"Connecticut's Guidelines for a Clinical Diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder"*
- ☐ Learn about evidenced-based practices and therapies
- ☐ Apply to the Department of Developmental Services Division of Autism Spectrum Services [www.ct.gov/dds](http://www.ct.gov/dds)
- ☐ Explore behavioral supports if necessary
- ☐ Develop a system to organize your paperwork

### Assistive Technology

- ☐ Learn about assistive technology devices and adaptations
- ☐ Explore financial assistance for assistive technology

### Education

- ☐ Learn about the special education process and IEP's
- ☐ Review Connecticut's State Department of Education *"A Parent's Guide to Special Education in Connecticut"*
- ☐ Contact your local Family Support Network
- ☐ Prepare to transition from CT Birth to Three System to the local school system
- ☐ Explore daycare and preschool options
- ☐ Understand your child's educational needs
- ☐ Develop positive behavioral intervention plans
- ☐ Get involved in your local Special Education Parent Organizations (SEPTO)
- ☐ Develop a system to organize education records

### Social and Relationships

- ☐ Help your child learn about appropriate social skills
- ☐ Engage in recreational and leisure activities that your child and family enjoy

## **Safety**

- ☐ Teach your child about stranger danger
- ☐ Discuss what is appropriate talk and touch
- ☐ Address wandering and elopement
- ☐ Be aware of potential household dangers
- ☐ Practice street safety
- ☐ Enroll your child in swimming lessons if possible
- ☐ Establish a safety network (including first responders) in case of an emergency
- ☐ Familiarize yourself with community play spaces and their boundaries as well as their proximity to possible dangers (i.e. roads, ponds, river, pools)

## **Funding for Services and Legal Issues**

- ☐ Apply to the Department of Developmental Services Division of Autism Spectrum Services [www.ct.gov/dds](http://www.ct.gov/dds)
- ☐ Determine if your child is eligible for Social Security Benefits [www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)
- ☐ Explore insurance coverage for autism services
  - Connecticut Autism Insurance Law
  - Autism Spectrum Disorder services under Medicaid/HUSKY A—Value Options 1-877-552-8247
- ☐ Direct question regarding ASD insurance issues to the Office of the Healthcare Advocate 1-866-466-4446
- ☐ Learn about life planning tools
  - Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act
- ☐ Explore tax deductions and exemptions for children with special needs
- ☐ Develop a system to organize financial and legal records

## **Support**

- ☐ Network with others at support groups
- ☐ Identify your support system
- ☐ Explore daycare options
- ☐ Take care of yourself, your spouse and your other children

## **Advocacy**

- ☐ Learn how to advocate for your child